

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 /072 W

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R 311358Z MAR75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6102

INF AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBSSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1874

DEPT PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR KEATING

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS

SUBJECT: GOI EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN POSITION ABROAD

1. GOI IS CURENTLY CRANKING UP MAJOR CAMPAIGN TO EXPLAIN ISRAELI POSITIN ABORAD IN WAKE OF SUSPENSION OF ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTITIONS.

2. PRESS MARCH 28 REPORTS THAT TEAM OF SENIOR ISRAELI PUBLIC FIGURES AND OFFICIALS , HEADED BY EX-INFORMATION MINSTER YARIV, ARE SCHEDULED TO TOUR THE U.S. WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS TO EXPLAIN ISRAELI POSITION IN NEGOTIATIONS. AMONG MEMBER OF TEAM ARE MEIR AMIT, FORMER CHIF OF INTELLIGENCE, AND DAN TOLKOVSKY, FORMER COMMANDER OF AIR FORCE.

3. ACCORDING TO MARCH 30 PRESS, FM ALLON HAS AKSED FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER DAYAN AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER EBAN
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TO TAKE PART IN CAMPAING, PARTICULARLY IN U.S. CHAIRMAN OF KNESSET FOREIGN AFFIARS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE, YITZHAK NAVO, HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN REQUESTED TO VISIT LATIN AMERICA, AND OPPOSTION LIKUD LEADR ELIMELECH RIMALT HAS BEEN ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN EFFORTS IN EUROPE.

4 IN JERUSALEM POSTINTERVIEW MARCH 26 EX-FM EBAN CALLED FOR MAJOR CAMPAING IN U.S. TO SHORE UP SUPPORT OAT EVRY LEVEL--THE MEDIA, THE CAMPUSES, CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION. ON MARCH 30, EBAN MADE SAME POINT ON RADIO ISRAEL, EMPHASIZING NEED TO REPAIR ISRAEL'S FNCES WITH CONGRESS. IN LIKELY PREVIEW TO DEFENSE OF ISRAELI POSITIION, EBAN SAID ISRAEL COULD AVE BEEN BLAMED FOR INTRASIGENCE HAD IT NOT MOVED AWAY FORM ITS NON-BELLIGERENCY DEMAND. HE CHARGED THAT EGYPT HAD BEEN DETERMINED TO FOIL THE NGOTIATIONS, WITH SADAT'S AIM HAVING BEEN TO DRAMATIZE GHE BREAKDOWN AND HAVE ISREL BLAMED FOR IT, THERBY DRIVING WEDGE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND U.S. EBAN BELEIVED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER MAY HAVE BEEN LED TO OVERESTIMATE WHAT EGYPT WAS LIKELY TO GIVE AND UNDERESTIMAT WHAT ISRAEL WAS LIKELY TO REQUIRE UNDER A NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT.

5. COMMENT: EBAN'S VIEWS ARE FAIRLY REPRESENTATIVE IN THIS CASE, AND A VARIETY OF POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE CALLED FOR AN INTENSIVE CAMPAIGN TO STRESS THE ISRAELI CASE THAT ARAB RELUCTANCE TO MOVE TOWARDS REAL PEACE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLLAPSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. VELIOTES

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